

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T STATE 243244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED REVISIONS TO CENTO SITUATION PAPER

REF: ANKARA 9513

SUMMARY: THERE FOLLOW SUGGESTED CHANGES TO LATEST REVISION OF PAPER ON SITUATION IN CENTO AREA. PARAGRAPH NUMBERS AND LETTERS CORRESPOND TO CENTO DOCUMENT CD/73/PWG/DI (REVISION NO. 3). END SUMMARY.

2. DELETE LAST SENTENCE AND INSERT QUOTE DESPITE AN APPARENTLY GENUINE DESIRE BY THE SOVIET UNION FOR DETENTE, SOVIET SUPPORT FOR EGYPT AND SYRIA DURING THE OCTOBER 1973 ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE HAS INDICATED THAT THEY INTEND TO UTILIZE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO ENLARGE THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE REGION EVEN WHEN SUCH ACTIVITY THREATENS DETENTE. NEVERTHELESS, WHILE DETENTE DID NOT DETER SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE
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ARABS, IT DID MAKE POSSIBLE A MORE RAPID SETTLEMENT. END

QUOTE.

7. AS NOW WRITTEN PARA 7 SETS UP A KIND OF STRAW MAN TO BE KNOCKED DOWN BY PARA 46(B). WE WOULD PREFER SEE FLAVOR OF 46(B) INCORPORATED IN PARA 7 I.E., UNLIKELIHOOD OF THIS CONTINGENCY.

11. IN FIRST SENTENCE DELETE ALL AFTER QUOTE ALLIANCE END QUOTE AND ADD AS SECOND SENTENCE QUOTE HOWEVER, AS PART OF THEIR GENERAL MIDDLE EAST POLICY, THE SOVIETS HAVE DEVELOPED POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE ON TURKEY'S SOUTHERN FLANK IN SYRIA AND IRAQ. END QUOTE.

16. ADD FOLLOWING AT END OF LAST SENTENCE IN PARAGRAPH: HOWEVER, SOVIET INFLUENCE MAY UNDERGO EROSION IF THERE IS A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT.

20. ADD AFTER FIRST SENTENCE: QUOTE HOWEVER, DURING THE OCTOBER 1973 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, IRAQ SAW IT IN HER INTEREST TO IMPROVE HER RELATIONS WITH IRAN AND TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO REESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. END QUOTE. ADD AS PENULTIMATE SENTENCE: QUOTE HOWEVER, THESE ACTIVITIES MAY SUBSIDE SOMEWHAT WITH THE RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. END QUOTE.

21. WE AGAIN PROPOSE DELETION OF ENTIRE SENTENCE BEGINNING QUOTE THE NUMBER OF AIRFIELDS EXCEEDS END QUOTE UNLESS THOSE FAVORING RETENTION CAN PRESENT SPECIFIC SUPPORTING INFORMATION.

22. ADD AS FINAL SENTENCE: QHOTE HOWEVER, SINCE IRAQ'S NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH THE IPC IN MARCH, 1973, IRAQ HAS ENTERED INTO MAJOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS WITH THE WEST IN IMPORTANT OIL, INDUSTRIAL, AND COMMERCIAL PROJECTS. END QUOTE.

23. DELETE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE. IN PRESENT FORM SENTENCE CAN GIVE IMPRESSION SOVIES ARE SUPPORTING IRAQI KURDS AGAINST IRAQI GOVERNMENT. IF OTHER MEMBERS OF GROUP INSIST
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ON SOME REFERENCE TO SOVIET SUPPORT FOR KURDS, WE SUGGEST RETURN TO ORIGINAL LANGUAGE OF PAPER BY ADDING TO THIRD SENTENCE QUOTE AND THE KURDS AGAINST IRAN AND TURKEY. END QUOTE.

28. WE HAD BEEN PREPARED TO ACCEPT LANGUAGE PROPOSED IN STATE 181424 S MODIFIED BY THAT IN ANKARA 7679; HOWEVER, NEW LANGUAGE PROPOSED IN THIRD REVISION CONTAINS SO MANY

UNACCEPTABLE PASSAGES THAT WE NOW PROPOSE FOLLOWING COMPLETE REDRAFT: QUOTE THE MAIN AIM OF THE SOVIET UNION IN AFGHANISTAN IS TO ENSURE A FRIENDLY STATE AMENABLE TO SOVIET INFLUENCE. POOR RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN OVER THE QUOTE PUSHTUNISTAN END QUOTE ISSUE HAVE DRAWN AFGHANISTAN INTO A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE USSR, DESPITE THE TRADITIONAL AFGHAN NONALIGNED POSTURE IN EXTERNAL RELATIONS OVER THE YEARS, SOVIET POLICY HAS BEEN CALCULATED TO BENEFIT FROM PAK-AFGHAN ANTAGONISM. WHEN PAKISTAN JOINED CENTO, THE USSR GAVE GENERAL SUPPORT TO AFGHANISTAN'S PUSHTUNISTAN CLAIM. IN THE MID-1950'S THE SOVIET UNION BEGAN TO PROVIDE LARGE SCALE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ITS SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR. ALTHOUGH NO HARD EVIDENCE IS AVAILABLE OF ACTIVE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN THE COUP D'ETAT OF JULY 17, 1973, BRINGING MOHAMMAD DAOUD TO POWER; THE SOVIETS MAY HAVE HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE. IT IS APPARENT THAT DAOUD'S MAJOR EXTERNAL PREOCCUPATION IS THE QUOTE SETTLEMENT END QUOTE OF THE PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE WITH PAKISTAN. SINCE ASSUMING POWER DAOUD HAS STEPPED UP ANTI-PAKISTAN PROPAGANDA AND HAS GIVEN ENCOURAGEMENT TO TRIBAL OPPONENTS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN PAKISTAN'S NORTHWEST FRONTIER PROVINCE. WHILE THE AFGHANS HAVE NOT YET APPEARED TO BE WILLING TO PUSH THE ISSUE TO THE POINT OF DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH PAKISTAN, THEY CONTINUE TO TALK PUBLICLY ABOUT THE ISSUE IN WAYS THAT ARE VIEWED AS INTERFERENCE IN PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. AS AN EXAMPLE, THE AFGHANISTAN REPRESENTATIVE AT THE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS IN SEPTEMBER 1973 ALLEGED THAT PAKISTAN HAD REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE QUOTE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF SEVEN MILLION PEOPLE SEPARATED BY A COLONIAL POWER FROM THEIR FATHER LAND. END QUOTE. HE CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT AFGHANISTAN QUOTE WOULD SPARE NO EFFORTS TO SEEKING AND REALIZING A SOLUTION OF THIS QUESTION. END QUE

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QUOTE. THE SOVIETS RECENTLY HAVE SENT A HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN TO REORGANIZE AND MODERNIZE ITS FORCES. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE AS YET TO SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIETS ARE ENCOURAGING AFGHAN ADVENTURISM ON PUSHTUNISTAN; HOWEVER, THE USSR'S DESIRE FOR EXPANDED INFLUENCE WITH THE DAOUD GOVERNMENT AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO THE AFGHAN MILITA

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